

COUNCIL KILLS PARKING METER LAW; DRALE'S TAX CUT PLEA IS IGNORED

No Cut in City Rate This Year

Ignoring the appeal of Councilman Nick Drale for a cut of 10 cents per \$100 assessed valuation in the Torrance City tax rate, the City Council Tuesday night formally adopted the 1951-52 budget of \$864,289, and fixed the tax rate at \$1.12 per \$100, the same as last year.

Appealing for a reduction in taxes, such as have been made by the County of Los Angeles, the City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles School District, Redondo Beach, and other communities, Drale declared:

"It is against public policy, if not a possible violation of the law, to continue to carry over a large surplus of funds unless they are earmarked for certain purposes.

"The general fund surplus as of June 30, 1951, was \$132,000.

"This means that the general fund tax rate could have been reduced last year to the extent of 27 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

"It was my understanding that \$40,000 of this money had been earmarked for purchase of buses, but now I am told that this fund will come out of (Continued from Page 11)

30c County Tax Rate Cut Set

The County Board of Supervisors set the 1951-52 tax rate Tuesday at \$1.6391 per \$100 assessed valuation, a reduction of 29.6 cents from last year.

In Los Angeles City, cuts in the city tax rate, flood control and Metropolitan Water District rates brought an overall reduction of 34.55 cents from the peak of \$6.5299 of a year ago.

1091 Added School Enrollment Expected

An increased enrollment of 1,091 students over last year is expected to enroll in schools of the Torrance Unified School District on September 17, opening day of the fall semester, according to Dr. J. H. Hull, school superintendent. Total expected enrollment is 5,410. Enrollment as of the first day of school for the fall semester, 1950, was 4,319.

ARRAIGNED

Torrance Man Charged With Manslaughter

Arraigned yesterday on suspicion of manslaughter charges was Roy O. Loyd, 30, of 17016 Glenburn avenue, Torrance.

A truck driver, Loyd was involved in the spectacular accident last Thursday at 190th and Figueroa streets in which a heavily laden gasoline tank-truck, an ambulance and two automobiles were involved. An ambulance driver was killed and three persons injured in the collision.

With results of arraignment not available at deadline, traffic division officers reported that (Continued on Page 11)



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1200 Voters Sign Protest Petitions

While the names of nearly 1200 citizens of Torrance protesting the installation of parking meters on the city streets were being checked in the City Clerk's office Tuesday, the City Council threw the ordinance for purchase of the meters "out the window."

The ordinance adopted August 14 would have become effective on September 13, and provisions already were being made to purchase some 750 meters for the "central traffic district" set up in the ordinance.

However, a committee headed by Albert Isen, lawyer and business man, and assisted by Councilmen Nick Drale, Vic Benstead, and others, started circulating petitions calling for repeal of the ordinance or a vote by the people on the issue.

The Torrance Press was the only newspaper to report that the petitions were in circulation.

The City Council did not wait for the petitions to be filed, but on its own volition, repealed the parking meter law.

AUTHORITY REMAINS
The parking authority resolution was not repealed, however, and the city is reported to be planning to buy land for off-street parking with revenue bonds.

Citizens throughout the City of Torrance were congratulating Attorney Isen, Councilman Drale and the committee for their quick work in getting signatures to kill the parking meter law.

"We're through being pushed around," one of them said.

Two Buses Bought for City Lines

Two 45-passenger G. M. C. transit busses were purchased by the City Council Tuesday night, on the recommendation of City Manager George Stevens at a cost of \$17,000 each.

The Council also rejected bids for a smaller type bus. Paul Loranger, of Paul's Chevrolet, in a letter to the City Council, stated that he was unable to bid on the smaller type bus as the City had advertised for a transit bus, but was ready to accept a bid on a school type bus for adults.

Loranger added that this was discriminatory as he would be able to bid on a school type bus if he had realized the city would accept bids on same.

After much debate on the part of the Council, it was decided that all bids on the smaller type bus be rejected and new bids called for, specifying either transit or school type bus as acceptable for bidding.

Public Beer Drinking Law Is Repealed

WAVE OF PROTESTS HITS CITY COUNCIL

An ordinance reported exclusively in the Torrance Press last week allowing the consumption of beer in public parks, streets and sidewalks in the City of Torrance upon permit of the City Manager, was repealed Tuesday night by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

The law, which had been adopted by the "ruling four" two weeks ago, drew protests from many ministers, school and civic officials. Opposers of the law said that it gave one man dictatorial powers to allow or not allow beer drinking in public places. They also claimed that it would create an additional burden on the law enforcement agencies of the city, that it was not beneficial for the general welfare of the people of Torrance, and that it would add to the juvenile delinquency problem.

PUBLIC HAZARD
In rendering the law void, it was stated in the ordinance that "the abuse of the privileges granted by Ordinance No. 564 would create a public nuisance and hazard to the public peace, safety and general welfare of the citizens of the City of Torrance."

Councilman Nick Drale was sole opponent of the ordinance to allow drinking beer in public places.



WINS SWIM AWARD . . . Ernie Ernest, 5, 1937 Middlebrook Road, Kettler Knolls, is shown as he receives his swim award from Paul Loranger of the Kiwanis club at the Torrance department of recreation open house held last Thursday evening at the Civic Auditorium. Nearly 160 children received the swim awards. David Hill, 9, and Jeanne Frisbee, 7, were crowned Playgrounds King and Queen at the event. Approximately 400 people attended. —Torrance Press photo

City Dump Fund Set Up In Budget

Earmarked in the City Budget adopted by the City Council Tuesday night is a \$15,000 fund to be used for the purchase and installation of a new city dump, according to Councilman Nick Drale.

Councilman Drale has been leading the fight, supported by residents of the Kettler Knolls area, to close the present city dump due to its filth, proximity to homes where over a thousand children live, and due also to the presence of rats, mice, other rodents and flies which are a menace to the health of the community.

A site permanently removed from any human habitation will be selected, and City Manager George Stevens already is in the market for the new dump.

The old dump will be cleared, filled and converted into a recreation area, it is said.

Paid Canvassers Sent Out With Water Bond Petitions

Agreeing to the recommendations of former Water Superintendent W. B. Stanger, the City Council has raised the water bond issue program to \$2,000,000 to assure sufficient funds to enlarge the local water system to care for future growth. The original figure of \$1,500,000 was declared by Stanger to be insufficient.

The campaign to get out a favorable vote on the bonds is being launched this week by the circulation of petitions by paid workers to secure 1000 signatures asking for the water bond election and also that the three water districts in Torrance be combined into one.

It is hoped that the election can be held November 13. Under the merger of the three districts, North Torrance and South Torrance (Walteria) will continue to pay off their bonds, and it is believed that this can be accomplished with a tax rate of .20 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

The central district rate will remain at .25 cents. The bond issue will be spread over the entire city, except Hollywood Riviera, it was said and a rate of only a few cents will be necessary to retire them.

MANASHAW HIRED
Donald Manashaw has been employed through the Chamber of Commerce to publicize the water bond issue, and handed out the following statement Tuesday night:

"One thousand signatures on petitions are now urgently needed for holding the proposed water bond election," George Stevens, Torrance City Manager, said. "We hope we can run the much needed election by November 13," Stevens pointed out, "and we are counting on the people of Torrance to protect their lives, their (Continued on Page 11)

Home-Made Airplane Crash Kills Inventor

The Torrance Municipal Airport Sunday, August 26 was the scene of a tragic accident when James F. Martin, 34, Gardena, crashed to his death yesterday in an attempt to fly an experimental "square" airplane he had invented and built. The crash was witnessed at the airport by Martin's wife Nicole, 25, his two children, Eddie, 4½, and Jean Pierre, 3½, his parents and a sister.

Martin's curiously shaped craft made several attempts at take-offs, finally became airborne, reached a height of 250 feet, made a 180-degree right turn and then went into a spin and came to earth in an open field 300 yards from the flying strip.

BUILT IN SPARE TIME
Martin, an airplane mechanic, had worked on the plane for several years, friends said. He built it in his spare time at a cost of about \$500. It was made of sheet aluminum and powered by a 40 h.p. Continental engine. The mechanic added 5 feet of conventional-type wing to either side on the leading edge of the square shape for needed extra lift.

Neither the Gardena Airport nor the Torrance Airport would give him permission to take off, however, it was learned from authorities at both fields.

The Civil Aeronautics Authority (Continued on Page 11)

'TILT-UP' SCHOOL BIDS LET

With bids on the two planned "tilt up" schools awarded by the Torrance Unified School District last Friday, August 24, the district expects to have two additional elementary schools for its use by February, 1952, according to Dr. J. H. Hull, school superintendent.

Bids for the Madrona and Riviera schools were let to George Carter Construction, low bidder, for \$407,350. The Madrona school, which will include ten classrooms and an administrative unit was awarded for \$179,672. The Riviera school, which will have 14 classrooms and an ad- (Continued on Page 11)

Drale and Teer Voted Delegates To Union Confab

Councilman Nick Drale was elected by the members of United Steel Workers of America, Local No. 1414, CIO, to represent them at the 38th District Steelworkers Field Conference to be held in Seattle on September 14, 15 and 16.

The conference will be for the purpose of discussing negotiations for a new steelworkers labor contract.

Delegates will attend from all states west of Colorado. Also elected on the committee with Drale was Vic Teer, president of the local. Drale is vice-president of the group.

New V-Principal Salary Schedule Adopted by Board

A new salary schedule for elementary vice-principals of the Torrance Unified School District was adopted by the Board of Education on August 21.

The new schedule, which becomes effective September 1, 1951, includes 14 wage steps. Minimum wage for vice-principals with their regular credential and Bachelor of Arts degree is \$3800 per year; with regular credential and Master of Arts degree or 36 units, \$4050 a year; and with regular credential, Master of Arts degree plus 48 units of Bachelor of Arts plus 78 units including Masters degree, \$4300. Maximum salary rates for the three classifications, respectively are as follows: \$5450, \$5700, and \$5950.

Could Have Sold Twenty

Would you like to have a smart looking 1941 Mercury convertible in good condition, at a reasonable price? The one we're thinking of has a radio, heater and a new top.

Well, if you wanted it, it's too late now! Tony Schnell, 2518 Carson St., was the owner—until he advertised it for sale in the Press Classifieds. Schnell said that there are certainly a lot of people looking for a smart looking little transportation car these days. "I had people come from all over to buy it. If I'd had twenty cars, I could have sold them all.

Here is the small classified that cost Schnell only 60 cents and brought so many prospects to his door:
1941 MERCURY convertible in good condition. Radio, heater, new top. Reasonable. 2513 W. Carson St.



SHRINER GATHERING . . . was held at the home of Al Gianni, 2131 182nd street, Torrance, last Thursday evening. Gianni (seated center of vehicle), hosted a group of Al Malakiah Shriners officials at a spaghetti and beefsteak feed. Included in the group are Potentate Bill Froelich, Junior Past Potentate Fuzzy Frizzell, and famed motion picture star Monty Bluis. —Photo by Photo Arts Studio



HI HO SMOKY!!!—Nine-year-old Beva "Babe" Tapley, of 2249 W. 230th st., Torrance, shown demonstrating the parade salute of her horse, Smoky, appeared last Sunday, August 26 with her horse in the Grand Entry Parade of the Annual Sheriff's Rodeo at Los Angeles Coliseum. "Babe", who has appeared in local parades for the last one and one-half years, received an invitation to appear in the Sheriff's Rodeo Parade. She is winner of more than 30 horse show awards. The young rider is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Tapley. Photo by Al Frederic.